

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A nail polish applicator comprising:
a ~~propellant~~ container extending along a longitudinal axis ~~and containing;~~
a nail polish under pressure within the container;
a nozzle coupled to the container and having an outlet opening; and
an actuator configured to selectively dispense the nail polish through the nozzle, wherein the nozzle ~~is configured to dispense the nail polish along a dispensing axis~~
has a longitudinal axis, wherein the outlet opening lies substantially along the longitudinal axis, the longitudinal axis of the nozzle being substantially parallel or coextensive with the longitudinal axis of container.
2. (Original) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the actuator includes a trigger movable in a direction towards the longitudinal axis of the container.
3. (Original) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the actuator includes a trigger proximate the nozzle.
4. (Original) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the applicator includes a housing at least partially about the container, wherein the housing extends along the longitudinal axis.
5. (Original) The applicator of claim 4, wherein the housing includes a plurality of sections fastened together about the container.
6. (Original) The applicator of claim 4, wherein the housing supports the actuator.
7. (Currently Amended) The applicator of claim 4, wherein the actuator includes a trigger pivotally coupled to the housing about a pivot axis on a first side of the longitudinal

axis of the nozzle, wherein the trigger has a depressment surface on a second opposite side of the longitudinal axis of the nozzle.

8. (Original) The applicator of claim 4, wherein the housing has a first outer exterior surface and wherein the actuator includes a trigger having a depressment surface substantially flush with the outer surface of the housing.

9. (Original) The applicator of claim 4, wherein the housing has a longitudinal length greater than the container and wherein the housing abuts an axial end of the container opposite the nozzle.

10. (Original) The applicator of claim 4, wherein the housing has a frusto-conical nose proximate the nozzle.

11. (Original) The applicator of claim 1 including a cap configured to removably cover the nozzle.

12. (Original) The applicator of claim 1 wherein the actuator includes a trigger and wherein the applicator further include a cap configured to removably cover the trigger.

13. (Original) The applicator of claim 12, wherein the cap removably covers the nozzle.

14. (Original) The applicator of claim 4, wherein the nozzle has a dispensing opening and wherein the housing tapers toward the opening.

15. (Original) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the container has an outer surface configured to be manipulated in a manner similar to that of a pen between a thumb, a middle finger, and an index finger.

16. (Original) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the container has a maximum outer diameter of 1.0 inch proximate the actuator.

17. (Original) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the actuator is disposed at least partially between the container and the nozzle.

18. (Currently Amended) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the actuator is no greater than 1.5 inches from the outlet in a direction along the ~~dispensing~~ longitudinal axis of the container.

19. (New) The applicator of claim 1 including a propellant within the container.

20. (New) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the propellant comprises a material distinct from the nail polish.

21. (New) The applicator of claim 1 including a dip tube extending from the nozzle into an interior of the container.

22. (New) The applicator of claim 21, wherein the container has an interior side surface extending along the longitudinal axis of the container and wherein the tube extends proximate to the side surface.

23. (New) The applicator of claim 21, wherein the tube has a plurality of openings.

24. (New) The applicator of claim 21 including an aerosol valve assembly between the nozzle and the tube.

25. (New) The applicator of claim 24, wherein the valve assembly includes a stem and wherein the valve assembly actuates to an open state in response to movement of the stem.

26. (New) The applicator of claim 25, wherein the valve assembly actuates to the open state in response to movement of the stem along the longitudinal axis of the container.

27. (New) The applicator of claim 21 including a funnel surface tapering towards an inlet of the tube.

28. (New) The applicator of claim 1 including an aerosol valve assembly between the nozzle and an interior of the container.

29. (New) The applicator of claim 28, wherein the valve assembly includes a stem and wherein the valve assembly actuates to an open state in response to movement of the stem.

30. (New) The applicator of claim 29, wherein the valve assembly actuates to the open state in response to movement of the stem along the longitudinal axis of the container.

31. (New) The applicator of claim 1 including a housing having a frusto-conical portion about the nozzle.

32. (New) The applicator of claim 31, wherein the actuator includes a trigger having a depressment surface along the frusto-conical portion.

33. (New) The applicator of claim 1 including a housing at least partially about the container and extending along the longitudinal axis of the container, wherein the actuator includes a trigger having a depressment surface, the depressment surface not extending radially outwardly beyond the housing.

34. (New) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the actuator has a forward most portion and wherein the nozzle extends forwardly beyond the forward most portion.

35. (New) The applicator of claim 1 including a housing at least partially about the container, the housing extending along the longitudinal axis of the container and having a forwardly extending frusto-conical portion terminating at a tip, wherein the actuator has a forward most portion rearward of the tip.

36. (New) The applicator of claim 1 including a housing completely enclosing the container and extending along a longitudinal axis of the container.

37. (New) A nail polish applicator comprising:
a propellant container extending along a longitudinal axis;
a nail polish under pressure within the container;
a nozzle coupled to the container and having an outlet;

an actuator configured to selectively dispense the nail polish through the nozzle, wherein the nozzle is configured to dispense the nail polish along a dispensing axis substantially parallel or coextensive with the longitudinal axis of container; and

a housing at least partially about the container extending along the longitudinal axis of the container, wherein the housing has a frusto-conical nose proximate the nozzle.